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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 237188

10
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:DLJAMESON
APPROVED BY NEA:ALATHERTON,JR.
L/NEA:KHUFFMAN
S/S-O: L. MATTESON
---------- 122442
O 040457Z OCT 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 237188

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, ENRG, LY

SUBJECT: OCCIDENTAL DISPUTE WITH LIBYA

REF: A) STATE 235751 B) TRIPOLI 1120

1. DEPARTMENT CALLED IN LIBYAN CHARGE GASHUT MORNING OCTOBER 3 AND REQUESTED CLARIFICATIONS OUTLINED IN REF A. GASHUT KNEW NOTHING OTHER THAN WHAT WAS CARRIED IN OCTOBER 3 FRONT PAGE NEW YORK TIMES ARTICLE ON THE SUBJECT. HE EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD PROHIBIT THE DEPARTURE OF INDIVIDUAL FOREIGN NATIONALS AS THE RESULT OF A COMMERCIAL DISPUTE BUT SAID HE WOULD ASK HIS FOREIGN MINISTRY FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THIS AND ABOUT THE DISCREPANCIES IN THE OXY AND LARG STATEMENTS ON ARBITRATION

2. AS RESULT OF REF B AND SIMILAR INFORMATION ON THE ATTITUDE OF OXY OFFICIALS IN LIBYA PROVIDED BY BRITISH EMBASSY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON CONTACTED OXY VP MCSWEENY TO SUGGEST THAT PRECIPITATE ACTION IN ATTEMPTING
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TO PULL OUT ALL EXPATRIATE EMPLOYEES MIGHT INFLAME THE

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SITUATION. MCSWEENEY REAFFIRMED THAT ORDER TO WITHDRAW PERSONNEL HAD BEEN SENT BUT SAID HE HAD NO CONFIRMATION OF ITS RECEIPT BY ESPEY SINCE OXY HAD BEEN UNABLE TO CONTACT ESPEY DURING LAST 36 HOURS. MCSWEENY RELAYED ATHERTON SUGGESTION TO DR. HAMMER WHO REAFFIRMED HIS DESIRE FOR IMMEDIATE PULL OUT OF OXY PERSONNEL. DURING SECOND CONVERSATION MCSWEENY ALSO SAID THAT HE HAD JUST GOTTEN CONFIRMATION FROM ESPEY THAT PULLOUT ORDER HAD BEEN RECEIVED IN TRIPOLI. KISSINGER

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